42 MEMOIRS OF NAPOLEON BONAPARTE.

He published in the *Mbniteur* that the Hanse Towns not be included in any particular Confederation. H strangled in its birth the Confederation of the No: which those feeble States would otherwise have been < to consent. When, in 1806, Napoleon marched against I he detached Marshal Mortier from the Grand Army ~v\ had passed the Bhine, and directed him to invade the 'rate of Hesse, and march on Hamburg. On the 1 November the latter town was occupied by the Frencl in the name of the Emperor, amidst the utmost ore tranquillity.

I must acknowledge that I was under much apprel as to this event. At the intelligence of the approach French army consternation was great and universal in burg, which was anxious to maintain its neutrality paired. At the urgent request of the magistrates of tl I assumed functions more than diplomatic, and beca some respects, the first magistrate of the town. I ^ meet Marshal Mortier to endeavor to dissuade hin entering. I thought I should by this means better sei interests of France than by favoring the occupatio] neutral town by our troops. But all remonstrance useless. Marshal Mortier had received formal orders the Emperor.

No preparations having been made at Hamburg f reception of Marshal Mortier, he quartered himself a whole staff upon me. The few troops he had with hii disposed of in my courtyard, so that the residence of; ister of peace was all at once converted into headqi This state of things continued until a house was got rei the Marshal.

Marshal Mortier had to make very rigorous exactio my representations suspended for a while Napoleon's for taking possession of the Bank of Hamburg. I a] bound to bear testimony to the Marshal's honorable pri and integrity of character. The representations which sent to Marshal Mortier were transmitted by the latter Emperor at Berlin; and Mortier stated that he had sus